

DRIVE SHAFT COUPLING

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

Disclosed is a torque-transmitting coupling assembly and method, as well as
10 flexible surgical reamers having such assemblies. The reamers employ a fitting
with radially flexible member, e.g., a split collet or a super-elastic collar that
receives an elongated tubular shaft of super-elastic alloy. A compression sleeve is
applied to the collet, in one embodiment, while the collar is located within a
counter-bore of the fitting in another embodiment. Relative motion between the
15 shaft, fitting and collet (or collar) induces a super-elastic activation in the shaft to
form the desired coupling.